In the Claims:

The current status of all claims is listed below and supercedes all previous lists of claims.

1-16. (cancelled).

17. (currently Amended) A method of ~~selecting~~ identifying at least one ~~or more~~ antisense ~~oligonucleotide~~ sequence ~~sequences~~ for ~~inhibition of~~ inhibiting expression of a preselected target nucleic acid comprising:

providing a set of two or more candidate antisense ~~oligonucleotide~~ sequences, wherein each candidate antisense sequence consists of 12 to 25 nucleobases and is ~~nucleotides in length which are~~ complementary to the preselected target nucleic acid sequence;

eliminating from the set of candidate antisense sequences, any candidate antisense sequences comprising ~~one or more~~ negative predictor sequence motif ~~comprising~~ 5'-GGGG-3';

eliminating from the set of candidate antisense sequences, any candidate antisense sequences comprising ~~one or more~~ negative predictor sequence motif ~~comprising~~ 5'-GGA-3';

selecting from the set of candidate antisense sequences, at least one ~~or more~~ test sequence, ~~each~~ comprising ~~one or more~~ positive predictor sequence motif, ~~comprising~~ 5'-CCAC-3';

~~and~~ synthesizing and testing at least one ~~or more~~ test antisense ~~oligonucleotides~~ oligonucleotide having ~~a selected~~ test sequence; and

thereby identifying at least one antisense sequence for inhibiting expression of the preselected target nucleic acid.

Claims 18 – 39 (canceled)

40. (currently amended) The method of claim 17,wherein ~~said~~ each of the at least one test oligonucleotides ~~are~~ is a chimeric ~~oligonucleotides~~ oligonucleotide.

41. (currently amended) The method of claim 40, wherein each of the at least one ~~the~~ test oligonucleotides ~~each have~~ has at least one 2'-subsituted nucleotide.

42. (currently amended) The method of claim 17, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the testing of the test oligonucleotides is performed in vitro ~~for their ability to modulate the preselected target nucleic acid~~.